

Thoughts
for Enthusiasts at



Bayreuth

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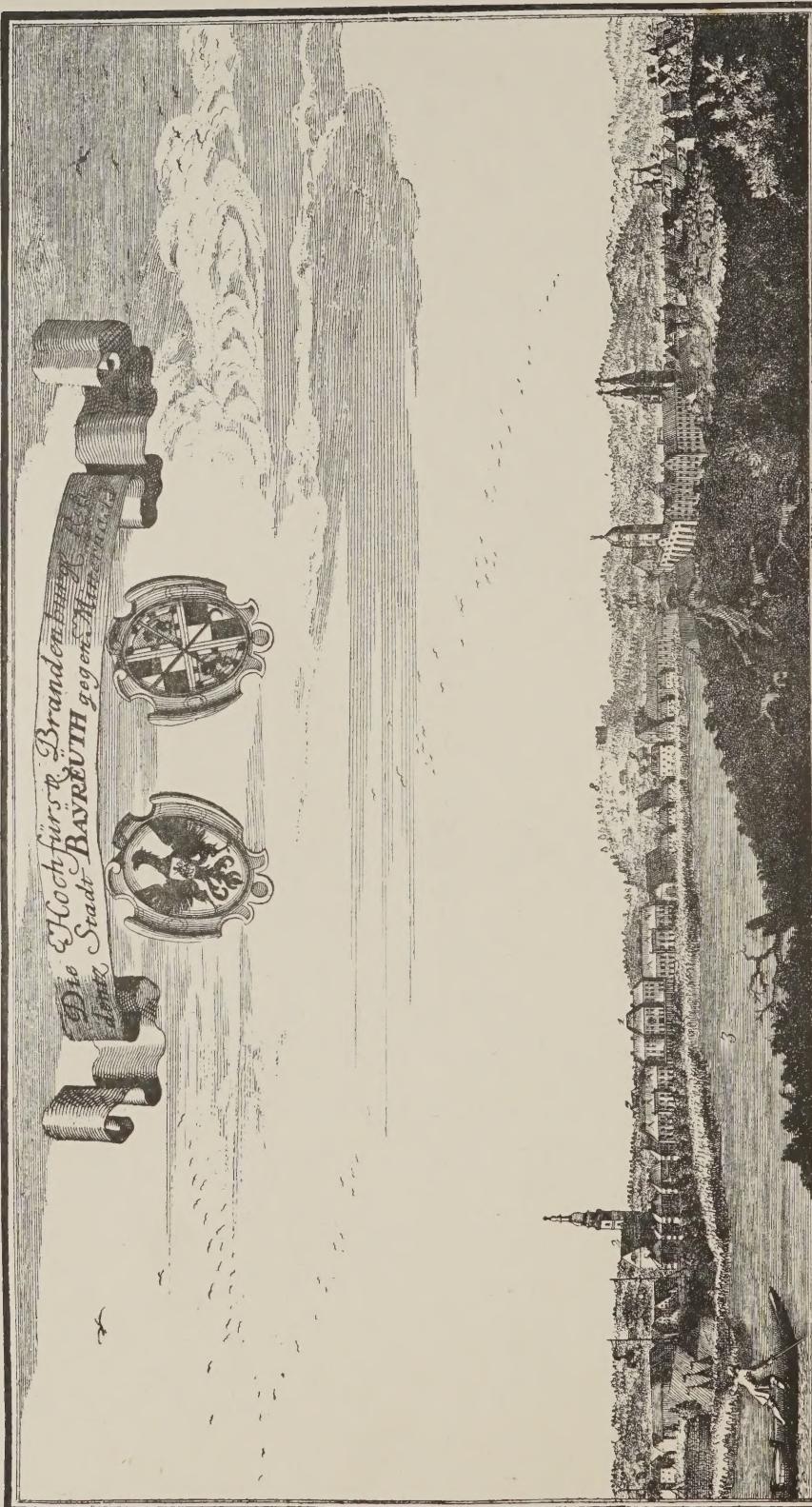
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1. Hochfürstl. Schloss zu St. Georgen am See. 2. Untern Schrot; 13. Gebees.
 2. Sophiea Berg. 14. Ober Thor.
 3. Sophia Kirche. 15. die Birken. 16. Hochfürstl. Residenzschloss zu Kornhaus.
 4. der Hafen. 17. Matrosen Häuschen. 18. Dreifaltigkeitskirche.
 5. der Hafen nebst denen Schiffen. 19. Rathaus.
 6. Conradsteth. 20. Zehnhoers.
 6. Thürgartner Schloß. 21. Ballhaus.
 7. F. V. delinavit.

Thoughts for Enthusiasts at Bayreuth

Collected in Memory of 1882 and 1883

by

The Honourable Mrs. Burrell



London
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Map.

MAP SHOWING BAYREUTH, ANSPACH, HEILSBRONN, PLASSENBURG, ETC. . .	<i>to face p. 5</i>
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Chapter I.

Historical and Antiquarian.



HE word Bayreuth means a piece of ground reclaimed by Bavarians (*eine Reut der Bayern*¹). “The North-german word ‘ausroden’ becomes ‘aus-reutern’ in the south. ‘*An der Rod*’ or ‘*an der Rodung*’ means ‘on the place where trees have been rooted out.’” “In any case it refers to the ‘*Reuth*,’ that is, the Piece of arable Land reclaimed from the Wilds.”² We have Schiller’s authority for this in “*Wilhelm Tell*”:

“*Links am See, wenn man
Nach Brunnen fährt, dem Mythenstein grad' über
Liegt eine Matte heimlich im Gehölz
Das Rütli heißt sie bei dem Volk der Hirten,
Weil dort die Waldung ausgereutet ward.*”³

Amongst the peasants at the present day *die Reuthe* means a little shovel which hangs to the plough, and they say “*es ist ja eine kleine Schaufel die an dem Pflug hängt; wenn es halt feucht ist, so klebt sich die Erde an*

¹ Holle, Alte Geschichte der Stadt Bayreuth. 31. Bayreuth. bei J. L. Buchner. 1833.

² Wagner, Gesammelte Schriften und Dichtungen. ix. 395. Leipzig. Verlag von E. W. Fritsch. 1871-80.

³ Act I. Scene 4.

his marriage with Beatrice, daughter of the Pfalzgraf of Burgundy, became himself Pfalzgraf of Burgundy; his full Title literally translated ran thus, “Count of Andechs, Duke in Dalmatia, Duke to Meran and *on* the Voigtland, Margraf to Austria and *in* the Palatinate, Count to Burgundy.” “From which Title the vastness of his possessions may be imagined,” says the “Ancient History of the Town of Bayreuth.”¹

¹ Alte Gesch.
33.

² Ibid. 37.

³ Carlyle,
History of
Frederick
the Great,
I. 147-8.
Leipzig,
B. Tauchnitz,
1858.

⁴ Ibid. 114.

⁵ Alte Gesch.
9.

When his son, Otto II., the last male of his line, was murdered in 1248, his possessions were “snatched up by active neighbours.” . . . “The Hohenzollern Burggraf of Nürnberg, who had married a younger sister of the Duke’s two years before this accident, managed to get at least Baireuth and some adjacencies; (‘inherited Bayreuth through his wife,’ says the ‘Ancient History.’ ‘Burggraf Friedrich III. von Nürnberg, der von den Besitzungen des ermordeten Herzogs Otto II. von Meran durch seine Gemahlin Elisabeth die Stadt Bayreuth geerbt hatte.’²) . . . This of Baireuth proved a notable possession to the Hohenzollern family: it was Conrad the first Burggraf’s great-grandson, Friedrich, counted ‘Friedrich III.’ among the Burggraves, who made the acquisition in this manner, A.D. 1248.³ . . . When Conrad ‘set out from the old Castle of Hohenzollern, where he was but junior, and had small outlooks, upon a very great errand in the world,’⁴ and was planted in Frankenland (Franconia,—the Land of the Free,—‘*der Freien*,’—or ‘*Franken*’⁵) by Kaiser Barbarossa as Burggraf of Nürnberg, the London and Middlesex of the Germany that then was. . . . And ever since that time, from ‘about the year 1170,’ down to the year 1815,—when so much was changed, owing to another (temporary) ‘Kaiser’ of new type, Napoleon his name,—the Hohenzollerns have had a footing in Franken-



land; and done sovereignty in and round Nürnberg, with an enlarging Territory in that region. Territory at last of large compass; which, under the names *Margravdom of Anspach*, and of *Baireuth*, or in general *Margravdom of Culmbach*, which includes both, has become familiar in History ('there were two Margravias made of it: one of Baireuth, called also 'Margraviate On the Hill'; and one of Anspach, 'Margraviate Under the Hill; ' of which, in their modern designations, we shall by and by hear more than enough' ¹). . . . Their big old Castle of Plassenburg (now a Penitentiary, with treadmill and the other furnishings) still stands on its Height, near Culmbach, looking down over the pleasant meeting of the Red and White Mayn Rivers and their fruitful valleys; awaking many thoughts in the traveller. Anspach Schloss, and still more Baireuth Schloss (Mansion, one day, of our little Wilhelmina of Berlin, Fritzkin's sister, now prattling there in so old a way; where notabilities have been, one and another; which Jean Paul, too, saw daily in his walks, while alive and looking skyward): these, and many other castles and things, belonging now wholly to Bavaria, will continue memorable for Hohenzollern history." ² "Das Burggraftum Nürnberg ist das älteste Erb-Land und Stamm-Haus dieser Hoch-Fürstlichen Familie, und wird der Ursprung dieses Burggraftums von etlichen auf das Jahr 911 angesetzt, da Nürnberg als eine Kaiserliche Reichs-Stadt befreiet worden." ³

Carlyle gives an account of the twelve Hohenzollern Electors of Brandenburg and their younger Brandenburg-Culmbach or Baireuth Branch, which it is impossible to forget; of the second Elector's son (called "Johannes

¹ History of Frederick the Great, I. 148.

² Ibid. 124-6.

³ Johann Wolfgang Rentsch, Brandenbur-gischer Ceder-Hein. 134-5. Bareut. 1682.

¹ History of Frederick the Great, I. 252.

² *Ibid.* 252.

³ Œuvres de Frédéric le Grand, Mémoires de Brandebourg, Berlin, Imprimerie Royale, 1840-57.

⁴ History of Frederick the Great, I. 254.

⁵ *Ibid.* 257.

Alchemista" because he took to Alchemy), who "loyally renounced the Electorship, at his Father's bidding, in favour of Friedrich; accepted Baireuth (better half of the Culmbach Territory) for appanage; and there peacefully distilled and sublimated at discretion; the government there being an easier task, and fitter for a soft speculative Herr."¹ He "performed his last sublimation"² on the 14th of November, 1464.

Of Albert the Third Elector, "a tall fiery tough old gentleman, of formidable talent for fighting ('Il gagna le prix dans dix sept tournois et ne fut jamais désarçonné'),³ who was called the 'Achilles of Germany' in his day; being then a very blazing far-seen character, dim as he has now grown. This Albert Achilles was the Third Elector; Ancestor he of all the Brandenburg and Culmbach Hohenzollern Princes that have since figured in the world. After him there is no break or shift in the succession, down to the little Friedrich now born"⁴ (Frederick the Great and his sister Margravine Wilhelmine of Bayreuth). "Albert was generally what we may call chief-constable in the Bohemian-Polish *Donnybrook*; giving a Knock here and then one there, in the Kaiser's name." Fought with everyone, "lastly with the Bishop of Bamberg, who got him excommunicated, and would not bury the dead. Kurfürst Albert's Letter on this last emergency, to his Vicegerent in Culmbach, is a famed Piece still extant (date 1481); and his plan, in such emergency, is a simple and likely one: 'Carry the dead bodies to the Parson's house; let him see whether he will not bury them by and by!'"⁵ Himself buried at Heilsbronn in Frankenland in 1486.

Before his accession to the Electorate he had been Margrave of Anspach, "and since his Brother the Alchemist's



ALBERT Achille S ELECT
Doseader von Mars miratus in armis
Selbst Mars erstaunte Gam
vor dieses Waffent glanz.

death, Margraf of BAIREUTH too, or of the whole Principality,—‘ Margraf of Culmbach,’ we will call it, for brevity’s sake, though the bewildering old Books have not steadily any name for it. After his accession, Albert Achilles naturally held both Electorate and Principality during the rest of his life. Which was an extremely rare predicament for the two Countries, the big and the little. No other Elector held them both, for nearly a hundred years; nor then, except as it were for a moment. The two countries, Electorate and Principality, HOHEN-ZOLLERN both, and constituting what the Hohenzollerns had in this world, continued intimately connected; with affinity and clientship carefully kept up, and the lesser standing always under the express protection and as it were *cousinship* of the greater. But they had their separate Princes, Lines of Princes; and they only twice, in the time of these Twelve Electors, came even temporarily under the same head. And as to ultimate union, Brandenburg-Baireuth and Brandenburg-Anspach were not incorporated with Brandenburg-Proper, and its new fortunes, till almost our own day, namely in 1791; ¹ when the last of the Margraves (Margravine Wilhelmine’s nephew, son of her sister Louisa), who once more united the two Principalities of Anspach and Bayreuth, “wishing to be relieved of the cares of Government, ceded them, on the 2nd of December, 1791, for an Annuity, to Prussia. In any case the King of Prussia, being his rightful heir, would have inherited them at his death.”²

This Margrave retired to England, lived at Hammersmith—Brandenburg House—and died at Benham in Berkshire in 1806.

Bayreuth remained in the possession of Prussia for

¹ History of
Frederick the
Great, I.
264-5.

² Dr.
Rauschnick,
Allgemeine
Preussische
Hauschronik.
III. 231.
Halle, in der
Rengerschen
Verlagsbuch-
handlung,
1832.

¹ Weltrich,
Erinnerun-
gen aus den
Jahren der
französischen
Occupation,
7. Culmbach,
1819.

² Vehse,
Geschichte
der deutschen
Höfe.
B. xxvi. Vierte
Abtheilung,
Vierter Theil.
7-8.
Hamburg,
Hoffmann
und Campe,
1852.
³ Erinnerun-
gen. 41.

⁴ Alison.
History of
Europe, VII.
560. Black-
wood and
Sons, 1849.

⁵ Russia.

“fifteen happy years.”¹ Friedrich Eugen (youngest brother-in-law of Margravine Wilhelmine’s daughter), who had served under Frederick the Great as a Prussian General while his two Brothers were on the Austrian side, “undertook the Prussian *Stadthalterschaft* of Anspach and Bayreuth in 1792 and inhabited ‘Fantaisie.’” When he succeeded his Brother Ludwig Eugen as Duke of Würtemberg in 1795, his second son, Ludwig, who had also been a Prussian General, was appointed Governor of the two Principalities.²

After the Battle of Jena, 14th of October, 1806, Napoleon permanently occupied the Province with his troops. By the Treaty of Tilsit between France and Russia, to which Prussia adhered on July 9th, 1807, it was “incorporated in the FRENCH EMPIRE,”³ and formed part of the Emperor’s great military road across Europe stretching from the Rhine to the Vistula.

By the Treaty of Tilsit the King of Prussia, Father of the present Emperor of Germany, “ceded to the Kings or Princes who should be designated by the Emperor Napoleon all the dominions which at the commencement of the War he possessed between the Rhine and the Elbe, and engaged to offer no opposition to any arrangement in regard to them which his Imperial Majesty might choose to adopt.”⁴

“In a dignified proclamation, which he addressed to the inhabitants of his lost provinces upon liberating them from their allegiance to the Prussian throne, he (the King) observed—‘Dear inhabitants of faithful provinces, districts and towns! My arms have been unfortunate. The efforts of the relics of my forces have been of no avail. Driven to the extreme boundary of my empire, and having seen my powerful ally⁵ conclude an armistice

and sign a peace, no choice remained to me but to follow his example. That peace imposed on me the most painful sacrifices. The bonds of Treaties, the reciprocal ties of love and duty, the fruit of ages of labour, have been broken asunder. All my efforts, and they have been most strenuous, have proved in vain. Fate ordains it. A Father is compelled to part from his children. I hereby release you from your allegiance to me and to my house. My most ardent prayers for your welfare will always attend you in your relations to your new sovereigns. Be to them what you have ever been to me. Neither force nor fate shall ever sever the remembrance of you from my heart.”¹

“Early in November there appeared an elaborate ordinance which provided for the complete civil organization and military occupation of the whole country from the Rhine to the Vistula. . . . Magistrates, police, gendarmes, all were nominated by the authority of Napoleon; the whole civil and military government of the country was concentrated in his hands.”²

The whole civil authorities who remained in the abandoned provinces were compelled to take an oath of fidelity to the French Emperor.³ Jean Paul thus records having to swear allegiance to FRANCE: “Qual bei dem Schwören des Magistrats für Bonaparte, 1806 den 27 November.” Again, “Meine Nacht-Schmerzen bei dem hiesigen Schwur an Frankreich.”⁴

The oath was in these terms: “I swear to exercise with fidelity the authority which is committed to me by the Emperor of the French, and to act only for the maintenance of the public tranquillity, and to concur with all my power in the execution of all the measures which may be ordered for the service of the French

¹ Alison,
History of
Europe, VII.
570.

² Ibid. 267.

³ Ibid. 266.

⁴ Wahrheit
aus Jean Paul's
Leben, II.
88. Max und
Komp,
Breslau. 1826-
33.

¹ Alte Gesch.
105.

² Ibid. 110.

³ Ibid. 127.

⁴ Ibid. 126.

⁵ Ibid. 130.

⁶ Ibid. 131.

⁷ Ibid. 131-2.

In 1533 the Town of Bayreuth had separated itself from the Bishop of Bamberg, under whose spiritual jurisdiction it had been for four hundred years.¹

In that year the Plague raged so that of all the Priests and the "Poor Scholars" only one remained alive.²

In 1558 the Jews, as "enemies of the Christian Church," were forbidden the country.³

The number of Bears and Wolves in the Forests around Bayreuth was so great, that from 1576 they were regularly hunted every year. The Wolf Hunt of the year 1592 lasted two months, and in July and October of 1596 great Bear Hunts were held.⁴

The Laws sound very quaint. A Doctor who physicked his Patient to death was liable to capital punishment,⁵ and Margrave Georg Friedrich during his reign "sought to set a limit to undue magnificence in dress, (which endangered honesty and made it impossible to distinguish between the classes,) and to prevent immoderate expenditure" by such statutes as these:⁶—

To a Wedding not more than two-and-forty guests including the Piper and Drummer (*Pfeifer und Trommelschläger*) might be invited. The Festivities might not last longer than one day. Each wedding guest should pay for his meal,—for his mid-day meal not above fifty old Franconian pennies, and for the evening meal at most (*höchstens*) forty-two pennies. Wedding Presents were forbidden! as were also Toasts! (*das Zutrinken*). At a Christening, besides the Gossips only six persons might be invited, and no Feast was allowed, only Confectionery and Fruit (*Confect und Obst*), or Bread and Cheese, with a moderate drink of common Wine or Beer, might be handed round. No one was allowed to make a present excepting the Godfather.⁷

In the beginning of the seventeenth century the prosperity of Bayreuth seemed to be assured, as Margrave Christian wished to make Bayreuth instead of Culmbach his Capital (*Residenz*),¹ but a succession of misfortunes fell upon the Town, and delayed this for nearly fifty years. The Plague, in 1602, carried off a thousand of the inhabitants, and in 1605 a Fire destroyed a hundred and forty-four houses, and the Margrave and his Court had to go to Culmbach. In 1610 he returned to Bayreuth, and began rebuilding and improving the Town; however, in 1621, another Fire broke out in two places at once, and for the second time within sixteen years reduced the Town, with the exception of the well-built public Buildings, to ashes—this misery being intensified by a kind of famine (*Theuerung*).² Then came the Thirty Years War, the result of which to Bayreuth was, according to its “Ancient History,” the introduction of the bad habit of Tobacco-smoking, which before the War was so wholly unknown to the Bayreuthers that they took the Swedish Soldiers smoking in the distance for fire-spitting Devils.³

In 1732 a detachment of the Salzburg Protestants went round by Bayreuth, the Bishop of Bamberg being too orthodox to allow them to pass through his territory.

“‘At Bayreuth it was towards Good Friday when the Pilgrims under their Commissarius arrived. They were lodged in the Villages about, but came copiously into the Town; came all in a body, to Church, on Good Friday; and at coming out, were one and all carried off to dinner, a very scramble arising among the Townsfolk to get hold of Pilgrims and dine them. Vast numbers were carried to the Schloss:’ one figures Wilhelmina among them.”⁴—Not entertaining the Original of Goethe’s *Dorothea*, for she had fallen out of the ranks

¹ Alte Gesch.
138.

² Ibid. 145.

³ Ibid. 153.

⁴ History of
Frederick the
Great, IV. 269.

haies ; un grand jet d'eau, placé au milieu, y donne une continuelle fraîcheur. Ces rochers cachent les ailes de la maison, qui sont composées chaqu'une de quatre petites cellules, ou de huit petites chambres, y ayant toujours une garde-robe et une chambre de lit. Cette cour conduit au corps-de-logis. On se trouve d'abord dans un sallon, dont le plafond est très-bien peint et doré ; ce sallon est tout revêtu de marbre de Bareith ; le fond en est de marbre gris et les pilastres de marbre rouge ; les corniches et les chapiteaux en sont dorés ; tout le parquet est de marbre des diverses sortes, qu'on en trouve ici ; mon appartement est à droite. Il se présente d'abord une chambre, dont la peinture représente au plafond les dames romaines lorsqu'elles arrachèrent la ville de Rome au pillage des ennemis ; l'entour de cette peinture est à fond bleu ; tous les reliefs sont dorés et argentés ; les lambris sont de marbre fin-noir et les compartiments de marbre fin-jaune ; la tapisserie est de damas jaune à galons d'argent. De là on entre dans les ailes, que j'ai fait ajouter ; à savoir dans une chambre, dont le plafond est en bas-relief et tout doré ; la peinture représente l'histoire de Chélonide et de Cléobrontas ; la boiserie est à fond blanc et tous les reliefs dorés ; les trumeaux et le dessus des cheminées sont par-tout de belles glaces ; la tapisserie de cette chambre est une étoffe à fond bleu et or excessivement riche, dont toutes les fleurs sont en chenille ; c'est la plus belle chose qu'on puisse voir. Ensuite vient un petit cabinet, dont la boiserie est du Japon ; mon frère m'en avoit fait présent ; elle avoit coûté un argent infini, et je crois que c'est l'unique de cette espèce qui ait paru en Europe : on l'avoit donnée à mon frère pour telle ; le fond en est d'or grené et toutes les figures sont en relief ; le plafond, les trumeaux et tout ce qu'il y a dans ce cabinet s'accorde avec cette boiserie ; tous ceux qui l'ont vu en ont été charmés. A côté de ce cabinet, en tournant à droite est

la chambre de musique ; elle est toute de marbre fin blanc, et les compartiments verds ; dans chaque compartiment il y a un trophée de musique doré et très bien travaillé ; les portraits de plusieurs belles personnes, que j'ai amassées, de la main des plus habiles maîtres, sont placés au-dessus de ces trophées et encastrés dans la muraille dans des cadres ornés et dorés ; le fond du plafond est blanc ; les reliefs représentent Orphée, jouant de sa lyre et attirant les animaux ; tous ces reliefs sont dorés ; mon clavecin et tous les instruments de musique sont placés dans cette chambre, au bout de laquelle est mon cabinet d'étude ; il est d'un vernis à fond brun et peint en miniature avec des fleurs naturelles ; c'est là où je suis encore occupée à écrire ces mémoires et où je passe bien des heures à faire mes réflexions. La chambre de musique me conduit par une autre porte dans celle où je m'habille, qui est toute simple, et de là j'entre dans ma chambre à coucher, dont le lit est de damas bleu à galons d'or, et la tapisserie de satin à bandes. Ma garde-robe est à côté, ce qui y donne une grande commodité. La distribution de l'appartement du Margrave est égale au mien, mais il est différemment décoré. La première de ses chambres est meublée d'une espèce de vernis, dont j'ai trouvé l'invention ; la peinture, qui est très-belle, représente toute l'histoire d'Alexandre, et je l'ai fait copier d'après les estampes de le Brun ; ce sont proprement des tableaux de la grandeur des murailles, peints en détrempe sur un papier collé sur de la toile, sur lequel j'ai fait passer un vernis pour le conserver.¹ Ces tableaux ont été admirés de tous les connaisseurs. Le fond du plafond et de la boiserie est blanc et les ornements dorés ; la peinture de ce plafond représente Alexandre, comme il jette l'encens au feu, et qu'Aristote le reprend de ce qu'il le fait avec trop de profusion. La boiserie de la seconde chambre est à fond brun foncé, tous les reliefs sont

¹ Now papered over.

the Muses and the waterworks of the Mont Parnasse have been destroyed by trees growing upon it, and it is now a lonely sort of Arch of Septimius Severus instead of a rustic *porte cochère*, joined at one side by the beautiful "berceau" or continuous arch of green (still four hundred yards of it left), and at the other by a short *berceau* connecting it with the Grotto at the entrance of the House, in which the waterworks are in perfect order "*pour attraper les gens*" now as then. The Red Mayn almost encircles the domain, and supplied the waterworks. The garden is no longer as the Margravine describes it; much that is now ploughed field and wilderness was then parterre and pleasure ground, as can be seen on the accompanying Facsimile of the ancient map, with which even what remains of the gardens no longer accords, as while Prince Hardenberg was Minister for the Franconian Principalities he passed the summers at *L'Ermitage*, and his Biographer gives him great credit for "changing its tasteless, antique, French gardens and decorations of every kind into English pleasure grounds to the satisfaction of all people of good taste"!¹ So the distinctive character of this "*endroit unique*" is gone. Baron Pöllnitz gives this account of the Margravine's life there: "*Il y a encore une autre maison, que l'on appelle l'Hermitage, et cela parcequ'il n'y a que des personnes nommées qui puissent y venir, et aussi parceque pendant tous le temps que le Margrave y demeure, le Prince, la Princesse et toute leur suite sont habillés en Hermites. . . . L'Aile droite du Salon contient un Apartment composé de plusieurs chambres; c'est celui de Monsieur le Margrave, qui est le Père Supérieur des Hermites. De ce même côté, il y a douze cellules pour autant d'Hermites. Dans le côté opposé, il y a le même nombre d'Appartements pour Madame la*

¹ C. L. Klose,
Leben Karl
August's,
Fürsten von
Hardenberg.
68. Halle.
Eduard
Anton. 1851.

Margrave et pour les Dames Hermites. Le grand Salon sert de Réfectoire ; c'est là que les Hermites des deux Sexes prennent leurs repas.

“Le Jardin est grand et très bien entretenu ; il est terminé par une Cascade qui tombe du haut d'une Montagne, ce qui fait un effet charmant. La Cascade est bordée par des Terrasses et des pentes très commodes, garnies des deux côtés d'une charmille à hauteur d'appui. Il y a aussi de chaque côté un Bois de Sapins, dont chaqu'un des sentiers conduit à un Pavillon. Chaque Hermite le sien. Ces Pavillons sont bâtis et meublés dans le goût d'un Hermitage. Les Hermites sont obligés de s'y retirer après le dîner, pour y observer le silence : on a cependant un peu mitigé cet usage, et ils peuvent à présent se visiter l'un l'autre. Ordinairement le Supérieur et la Supérieure leur rendent visite. Vers le temps de la récréation, la Supérieure sonne la Cloche, le Prieur y répond par la sienne, et les Hermites des deux Sexes sonnent aussi la leur, pour marquer qu'ils ont entendu qu'ils doivent se rendre chez le Supérieur. Lorsqu'ils y sont arrivés, ils sortent ensemble, et se rendent au lieu de la récréation, où l'on s'amuse à toutes sortes de Jeux. A l'heure de souper on se rend au Réfectoire. Quelquefois les Dames régalaient le Prieur par des plats qu'elles ont préparées dans la cuisine de la Supérieure. Les Hermites de leur côté peuvent jouir du plaisir de la Chasse. Vous voyez bien, Madame, qu'il est aisément de vivre dans une pareille solitude, et que la Règle n'a rien de trop austère. Lorsqu'on a passé à l'Hermitage le temps marqué, toute la Cour revient à Bareith.

“Après avoir été témoin par moi-même de la vie douce et aisée que l'on mène à la Cour du Margrave je pris congé du Prince et Princesse, dans le dessein de continuer à voyager,” etc.¹

¹ Baron de Pöllnitz,
Lettres et Mémoires,
Troisième édition, V.
354-9. A Amsterdam,
chez François Changuiou.
1737.

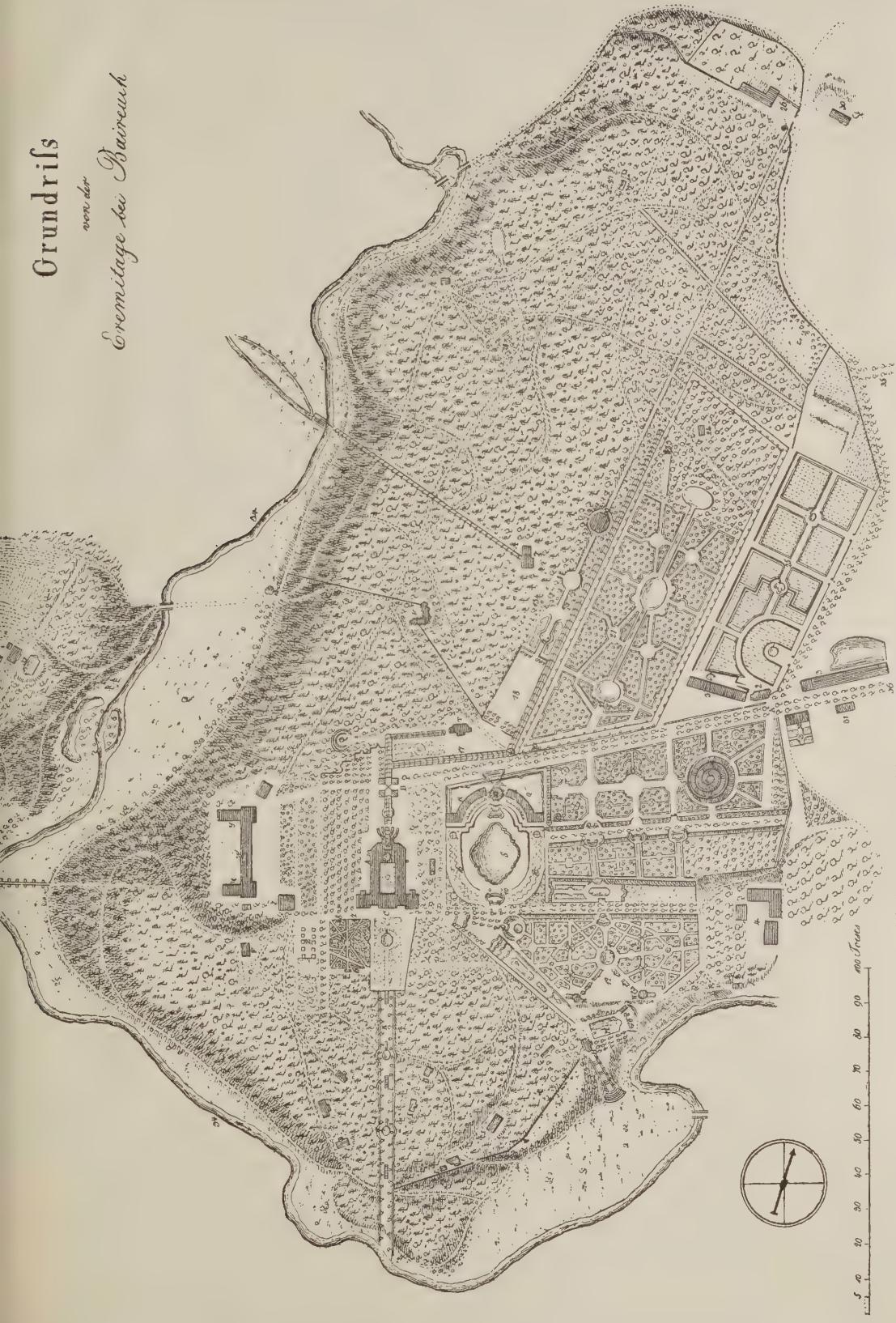
Thoughts for Enthusiasts

- A. Haupt-Eingang.
- B. Parnassus Berg mit den Bildsäulen der 9 Musen des Apollo und des Pegasus.
- C. Alte Eremitage.
- D. Grotte darinnen.
- E. Die Schaubühne.
- F. Ihr Hoheiten Eremitenhaus.
- G. Markgraf Georg Wilhelms Eremitenhaus.
- H. Markgraf Friedrichs Eremitenhaus.
- I. Sechs verschiedene Eremitenhäuser.
- K. Wasser-Fall.
- L. Sparneins-Brunn.
- M. Grotte und Bassin mit 25 Fontänen und 13 Spiegelwassern.
- N. Zwei grosse Vogelhäusser.
- O. Chinesisches Sallet und Grotte.
- P. Phaeton oder Marmor Sallet.
- Q. Gallerie und Wohnungen bei der Orangerie.
- R. Vogelhaus.
- S. Grosses Bassin mit 2 Tritonen und 56. kleinern Springbrunnen bei der Orangerie.
- T. Prinzessen-Haus.
- V. Stroh-Haus.
- W. Stall.
- X. Küche.
- Y. Castellans Wohnung.
- Z. Wasserbehalter.
- 1. Stangenkunst und Druckwerk.
- 2. Gärtners Wohnung.
- 3. Treib-Häuser.
- 4. Mon Plaisir.
- 5. Belvedere.
- 6. Antike von einem Grabmahl.
- 7. Bildsäule des Homer.
- 8. Bildsäule des Seneka.
- 9. Bildsäule des Sokrates.
- 10. Zwei Bildsäulen der Sabinen.
- 11. Bildsäulen von verschiedenen Kindern.
- 12. Zwölf Bildsäulen von versch. Wald-Göttern.
- 13. Bildsäule des Merkur.
- 14. Bildsäule der Pallas.
- 15. Tempel des Schweigens.
- 16. Gitterwerk mit 18 Blenden und eben soviel Vasen.
- 17. Bogen-Gang.

Grundriss

von der

Ermitage zu Bayreuth



18. Reit-Bahn.
19. Grüner Sallón mit 16 freistehenden Säulen.
20. Maille-Bahn.
21. Heckenwerk mit Cabinetten von Baumschulen.
22. Canal.
23. Schiefsmauer.
24. Holzstöse in denen Zimmer befindlich.
25. Küchengarten.
26. Phasanerie.
27. Vogel-Heerd.
28. Verschiedene von der Natur in Felsen gemachte Blenden mit Canapees.
29. Spazier-Gänge.
30. Eremitenhof.
31. Markedenters Hütten.
32. Schreiners-Wohnung.
33. Röhmer Leiten.
34. Rothe Main Fluss.
35. Königs-Weg.
36. Weg nach Sct. Johannis und Sct. Georgen.



The enthusiast easily sweeps away the modern houses and sees that the Bayreuth of Margravine Wilhelmine's time was a Village of Palaces, inhabited by the nobility, the most of whom "n'avoient hanté que les rues de Bareith et n'avoient aucune idée du reste du monde."¹

¹ Mémoires,
II. 275.

There are some fine stone houses near the Opera House, also near the *Altes Schloss*, and a very pretty one in the *Jäger Strasse*. The Barracks are handsome, and would have been more so, were it not that the stone carvings ordered for them by Margrave Friedrich were so heavy that they would have brought down the building. The picturesque houses in the Market Place are of earlier dates, 1605, 1724, etc.

The *Neues Schloss* is a miniature royal palace made out of a number of houses thrown together in haste by the Margravine Wilhelmine and Margrave Friedrich when their Palace was burnt, on the 26th January, 1753. The most interesting things in it are a number of *Pastel* Portraits of the Margravine's Musicians and Actors,—not for their own sakes, but because they are, in all probability, the work of the indefatigable Margravine herself, as it is known that she drew in *Pastel*, and these portraits she has labelled at the back in her own splendid writing:—

"Monsieur Kleinknecht l'ainé, Maitre de Concert à Bareith 1751."

"Mademoiselle Cellarini—chanteuse 1748."

"Madame Froment Commedienne à Bareith jouant les Reines et *Soubrettes en chef* 1751."

There is also an oil Portrait of the Margravine as a girl.

The Dining-room, a long narrow room, 52 feet by

15, has a pretty decoration,—panels of cedar, divided by pilasters representing palm trees, the leaves spreading out at the top on cornice and ceiling.

Napoleon slept in the Palace in May, 1812, on the way to his Russian campaign;¹ he is supposed to have seen The White Lady of the Hohenzollerns, and (not being as brave as Margrave “*Albrecht der Beherzte*,” who, at Plassenburg, took heart of grace and threw her out of the window, when she turned out to be his own “*Kanzler der Burg*” in disguise²), he departed in such haste that his camp bed was left behind, and can be seen by the curious to this day.

The White Lady haunts every Brandenburg History, and, as Bayreuth and its neighbourhood belonged for 559 years to the Hohenzollern Family, she haunts every local guide book in a vague, nameless, and dateless way.

The Legend runs that a Countess of Orlamünde lived as a widow with her twin children under two years old at Plassenburg (which would be visible from the *Siegesturm* at Bayreuth were it not for an intervening hill). She fell in love with Albert the Handsome, Burggrave of Nuremberg “*Seine schöne Gestalt und hohe Meriten aber sein einer jungen hitzigen Dame zum Gift woraen. Denn nachdem Graf Ott von Orlamünd gar jung verstorben, warf die hinterlassene Wittib, so zu Blassenberg wohnete, ihre Lieb auf diesen schönen Burggrafen Albrechten.*”³ He was heard to say that he would marry her “were it not for four eyes”; she took this to mean were it not for her two children, and murdered them by sticking a golden Hair-pin through their skulls, and they were buried at the Convent of Himmelcron. She did not gain her end by this crime, and as a penance she went on her knees from Plassenburg to Himmelcron and then made a pilgrimage

¹ Nicolas Batjin, Historiographe, *Histoire de l'Empereur Napoleon I^{er}.* II. 104.
Paris.
E. Dentu,
1867.

² Alt und Neu Plassenburg und deren Besitzer. Zusammengestellt von Adam Homberg. 18. 1841.

³ Brandenbur-
gischer Ceder-
Hein. 318.

¹ Minutoli.
^{26.}

does not appear in any document after the June of the same year—1338—it is probable that he died very soon after, and certainly before 1341, when Countess Kunigunde is mentioned in a Deed as his Widow.¹ The Deed is extant in which the Burggraves Johann and Albrecht sell the Fortress of Gründlach to Countess Kunigunde of Orlamünde on the 18th January, 1343, as is also the Document of Foundation in which Frau Kunigunde, Widow of Count Otto of Orlamünde, gives the Domain of Gründlach to the Convent of Himmelsthron on 15th February, 1343, to found a Grey Order “*dass er des ersten ein Frauen Closter machen soll, Graues Ordens,*” and endows perpetual Masses for her own Soul, her Husband’s, her Father’s and Mother’s, all her Forbears and all Faithful Souls: “. . . und darzu haben wir geben zu einem ewigen Seelgeräth und Allmosen durch Gott, durch unser Seelen Heil, unsers Wirths Graf Otten, unsers Vatters, Graf Ulrichs, unsrer Mutter Frau Elszbethen der Landgräfin, durch aller unsrer Vordern, und auch durch aller glaubigen Seelen willen fünftausend Pfund Heller, und der haben wir ihn itzund gewehrt an Gründlach, mit allen den rechten darzu gehörend, und wir das Kaufft haben, umb die Edlen Herren Graf Hannsen und Graf Albrechten, die Burggrafen von Nürnberg, zwey tausent Pfund Heller, darzu haben wir Ihm geben, und verschafft, drey tausend Pfund Heller, von allem dem Gut, dass uns die vorgenannten Burggrafen noch schuldig sindt, als Ihre Briefe darüber sagen.”²

² *Ibid.* 24-5.

Countess Kunigunde lies buried in this Convent at Gründlach. The Epitaph on her Tombstone is:

“Anno MCCCLI obiit domina Cunegundis de Orlamund,
fundationis hujus abbatissa in Celi Throno.”³

³ Kraussold.
^{33.}

This then is the White Lady, who is said by the

Voice of the People to appear whenever any important event—a misfortune, a death, or a war—is impending for the House of Hohenzollern¹—“*. . . . deren Erscheinung seit dem allemal den Tod einer hohen Person ankündigen soll, namentlich in dem für Preussen ominösen Jahre 40, wie es drei Jahrhunderte hinter einander, 1640, 1740, und 1840 sich gezeigt hat.*”²

The Convent of Cœli Corona, germanice Himmelcron, near Bayreuth, where Tradition says the children were buried, was founded by “Otto der Gewaltige,” Count of Orlamünde, on the Innocents’ Day, 1281.³

There is an effigy of him in the mantle and chain of an Order, with armour on his legs and a sword by his side; nevertheless it is pointed out as that of the White Lady. Round the Monument an Inscription used to be legible:

“ Otto von Orlamonden
Otto syn sun zwen
edele Greven sind hie
begraben und dies Klosters
stifter gewesen. von Gotes
Geborte MCCLXXXI an.
Chindel Tag.”⁴

¹ Kraussold. 4.

² Vehse, B. I.
Erste Abtheilung, Erster Theil, 83.

³ Minutoli, 7.

⁴ Ibid. 7.

The Countess Agnes of Orlamünde, whose tomb is at Himmelcron and who is often confounded with the White Lady, is by some supposed to be the wife and by others the daughter of the Founder.

“ Frau Agnes Gräfin von Orlamünd, und des Himmelcronischen-Closter-Stifters Otto I. Tochter. Die Zeit ihrer Geburt, Begebung zum Geistlichen Nonnen-Orden, Antretung der Würde einer Himmelcronischen Aebtissin, und ihre übrige Lebens-Sterbens-und-Begräbniss-Umstände, sind unmöglich aufzufindig zu machen; dannenhero müssen wir

¹ Geschichte
der Vorstadt
Sct. Georgen.
^{2.}

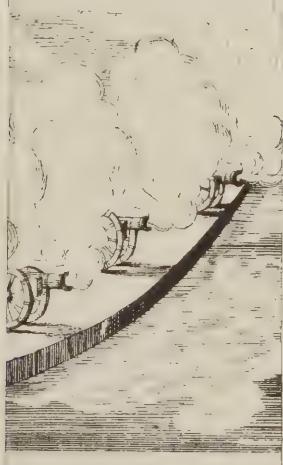
³ Ibid. 3.

⁴ History of
Frederick the
Great, V. 57.

⁵ Ibid. 64.

A suburb of Bayreuth is called “St. Georgen am See.” It is now in vain to look for a Lake, as there never was anything but an artificial one, made by Margrave Friedrich, in 1508, for *Naumachia*. It cost him six thousand *Gulden* to lay it out,¹ and the proprietors received other land as compensation. The largest ship upon it was one hundred feet long, twenty feet broad, had a mast sixty feet high, and carried twelve little cannon. It was burnt during a festivity in 1747, causing a loss of fifteen thousand *Gulden*.² There is now a model of it at the *Kanzleibibliothek* in the *Altes Schloss*. A row of well-built cut-stone cottages for the sailors is still called *Matrosen Gasse*. One of the houses as seen from the Lane is quite perfect, and from the water meadows behind the Brandenburger Palace can be distinctly traced how the Lake washed this “Sailors’ Lane,” a sort of river wall as foundation for the cottages being visible, as is also the now high-and-dry island which in 1734 was the scene of the meeting between the Margravine Wilhelmine and her Brother, “when on his way to Philipsburg and the Seat of War”³ on the Rhine. The King their Father had forbidden the Crown Prince to stop in Bayreuth, so this stratagem had to be resorted to—“keeping the Paternal Order from the teeth outwards.”⁴

The Brandenburger Palace at St. Georgen was built between 1701 and 1725, and is now used as a Military Hospital. There is a Print of the Palace and Lake at *L’Ermitage* in the Print-room of the semicircle of Summer-houses. The Lake is also shown in the Frontispiece. “*Der Brandenburger Weiher bei Baireuth ist ein ausgegrabner Landsee von 500 Tagwerken und vor einigen Monaten sass ich eine Stunde darin; denn man trock-*



xxii Sct. Georg

net ihn jetzt zum Besten seiner bleichen Küstenbewohner aus.”¹

This is the Margravine's account of it in its glory :—

“ La St. George approchoit. Le Margrave Christian Ernst² avoit institué l'ordre de l'aigle rouge ce jour-là ; depuis ce temps on le célébroit toujours avec pompe et ceremonie. Le Margrave créoit des chevaliers, auxquels il ne le donnoit qu'à moins qu'ils ne fussent de très-grande maison. Cet ordre étoit si distingué, que plusieurs princes le portoient. Quoique fort foible et accablée, je suivis la cour au Brandebourger, maison de plaisance, toute proche de la ville. Je n'ai jamais rien vu de plus beau pour la situation ; le bâtiment est rempli de défauts et assez incommodé ; le jardin sans être grand est joli ; il est borné par un lac au milieu duquel il y a une île, où on a pratiqué un port ; on y voit une petite flotte, composée de yachts et de galères, ce qui fait un coup d'œil charmant. On fit une triple décharge du port et des vaisseaux après quoi les fanfares des trompettes et le bruit des tymbales se fit entendre à trois reprises différentes.”³

Baron Pöllnitz describes a Theatre at St. Georgen, which makes the fourth in and about Bayreuth at that time : “ Le Prince avoit encore une autre Maison fort belle, aux portes de Bareith, que l'on appelle Brandebourg. Cette Maison est sur le bord d'un grand lac, sur lequel il y a plusieurs Galères, des Yachts, et des Gondoles, qu'il fait souvent combattre les uns contre les autres. Il a donné dans ce goût un très beau Spectacle sur un Théâtre qui est bâti sur les bords du Lac, de sorte qu'en ouvrant l'enfoncement, le Théâtre se trouve au niveau du Lac, que l'on voit l'espace d'une demi-lieue. Ce fut là qu'il fit exécuter un Combat naval, qui forma un Spectacle magnifique.

“ Au milieu du Lac on voit une Île qui est fortifiée, et que le

¹ Jean Paul.
I. 151.

² Georg
Wilhelm.

³ Mémoires,
II. 30.

¹ Vehse. B.
XXV. Vierte
Abtheilung,
Dritter Theil,
252.

² *Ibid.* 252.

³ Jean Paul.
XVII. 146.

⁴ Alte Gesch.
182.

⁵ History of
Frederick the
Great,
XIII. 187.

daughter in 1750, who died the next year, the Duchess was separated from the Duke in September, 1756, at the time of the outbreak of the Seven-Years War. She returned to her Parents,¹ and was divorced in 1759, the year after her Mother's death. She then went to live at "Neustadt on the Aisch."² In 1761 her Uncle (her Father's successor), Margrave Friedrich Christian, gave her the Residence which she named "Fantaisie," now, as in Jean Paul's time, the favourite resort of visitors to Bayreuth :—"Blühendes, tönendes, schattendes Thal! Wiege der Frühlingsträume! Geisterinsel des Mondlichts! Und deine Eltern, die Berge, die in dich hereinblicken, sind so reizend wie ihr Kind in seinem Kranz."³

The Ancient History states that she died at Bayreuth in the *Altes Schloss*,⁴ on the 6th of April, 1780,⁵ and one hopes that she did die in the Old Palace at Bayreuth, for she was the last of her Line—the Bayreuth Line of Hohenzollerns.



Das alte Schloss zu Bayreuth vor dem Brand.

Bayreuth being the “*KREISHAUPTSTADT*,” that is, the Seat of Government of Upper Franconia, the *Altes Schloss* is now the Residence of the “President,” and is occupied by Government Offices; it also contains the Public Library, in which there is a portrait much restored of “Joachimus I. Churfürst zu Brandenburg, ætat. 45, A.D. 1529”—“a burly gentleman of whom much is written in the books,” whose brother Albert, Archbishop of Mainz, “by accident got to be for ever memorable in Church History,”¹ publishing Indulgences and trying to pay £15,000 for his Pallium. Also some portraits on copper of “Grafen zu Zollern.” The Octagon Tower of this Old Palace is the most prominent feature of the place; it is the Nose on the Face of Bayreuth, whether its Full Face is seen from the *Siegesthurm*, or its Profile from elsewhere. It was built by Dieussart for Margrave Christian Ernst,² and is as curious inside as outside. It contains a corkscrew staircase surrounded by a corkscrew carriage road (*Wendelfahrweg*), not now perfect all the way up, the top of the tower having been burnt off.

The most exquisite sketch of it, framed in fir-trees and with a background of blue sky, can be taken a little before the carriage road from the *Siegesthurm* emerges from the pine wood.

The *Siegesthurm* on the *Hohe Warte* was erected to the memory of Bayreuth’s brave Sons who, led by the Hohenzollerns of to-day, fell in the War of 1870.

From the top of this Tower, before sunset, there is a beautiful view of “bright magic Bayreuth”³ and “the enchanted girdle of its environment.”⁴ North and East spread the dark *Fichtelgebirge* (Fir Mountains), with picturesque St. Georgen (and its water

¹ History of Frederick the Great, I.
261-2.

² Versuch. 33.

³ Denkwürdigkeiten aus dem Leben von Jean Paul, I. 87.

⁴ Ibid. II. 91.

und nach unten geführten Orkus-Gewölbe, so stiegen aus der Tiefe Stimmen herauf, welche, begleitet von verborgnenen Instrumenten, folgenden

WECHSELGESANG DER OREADEN UND NAJADEN

von den im Fichtelgebirg entspringenden Flüssen

SAALE, EGER, NABE und MAIN, sangen :

Chor der Oreaden und Najaden.

*Seid gegrüsst den Geistern der Berge und der Ströme !
Die Ruine blüht vor euch,*

*Blumen opfert das Gebirg !
Der Berg wird zum Throne durch Ihn,
Der Thron ein Olympos durch Sie.*

Oreaden.

*Deinem Adler gebührt die Höh',
Unser Vater verlieh dir ihn
Mit Klauen voll Frühlings-Gewitter,
Um die Fluren zu segnen,
Um die Feinde zu treffen.*

Najaden.

*Wir bewohnen nur vier kleine Flüsse,
Denn das Meer gebar die schönste Göttin ;
Zum Meere eilen die Flüsse,
Zur Schönheit ziehen die Herzen,
Doch auch die Welle schafft die Göttin ; und ihr Diamant
Fasst das göttliche Bild ;
Unsre vier Ströme spiegeln Anadyomene
Als vier Schwestern zurück.*

Eine Oreade.

(*Veränderte Musik*)

Ich besiege die Nymphen der Berge und Flüsse ; ich sende aus der Tiefe statt Goldes die Heilquelle in's Thal ; und die Erhabenen weilen am längsten bei ihr.

Die Najade der Saale.

*Ich besiege dich ; ich begleite Sie am längsten in ihr Reich,
dann eilet meine Götterschwester
mir von Seinem Riesengebirg¹ entgegen,
und umarmend tragen wir*

**DES DEUTSCHEN KÖNIGS SCHIFFE
IN DAS DEUTSCHE MEER.”²**

¹ Die Elbe.

² Jean Paul,
XLVII.
20-23.



* * * *The two remaining Chapters not being ready, Chapter I.
is published separately for the convenience of
Visitors to Bayreuth.*

July, 1888.

